

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1899.

DEMOCRACY ON THE RAMPAGE.

Some of the recent conventions of the Republican party of this city were conducted in such an unfair, disorderly, and disgraceful manner, that we supposed the climax of partisan iniquity had been reached. But the proceedings at the various Democratic conventions show that we were woefully mistaken. There was a still lower deep, and the representatives of that organization plunged into it headlong. Nothing but murder was wanting to complete the carnival of contention, corruption, cheating, and crime. The bad and base elements of the Democracy were in the ascendant, and if the demons in the bottomless pit had been unchained and introduced into their council-chambers, they could scarcely have added anything to the horrors of the scene.

The reporters give a vivid sketch of some of the more striking spectacles. But while a few of the knock-downs and drag-outs, the thefts, the frauds, and the whiskyisms are duly chronicled, the proceedings, as a whole, beggar description, and they may well cause every decent Democrat to blush with shame, and every good citizen to shrink with horror from the thought that bodies of such a character shall wield a commanding influence over the political destinies of Philadelphia.

In former times nominations had a serious meaning. They indicated that the nominee had a good claim to the confidence of the parties which placed them in the field, and that they were at least not below the average of their fellow-citizens in intelligence, patriotism, and integrity. But nominations made by the material of which the Democratic conventions were composed, prove only that the nominees have managed to win the favor of the worst classes of the community, and they are more of a disgrace than an honor. The day cannot be far distant when endorsements of this description will be regarded by the community at large as a much better reason why the men who receive them should never be voted for at popular elections, than as an irresistible title to the support of intelligent and honest freemen.

In the Senatorial Convention the redoubtable Sam Josephs withdrew from the contest at the eleventh hour, but as he publicly claimed that the convention was ready to nominate himself, and as he dictated the choice of the nominee, Alexander J. Diamond, the Democracy have little reason to congratulate themselves upon the change in the programme. From Josephs' man Friday the public can expect nothing better than from Josephs himself.

In their Representative Conventions the Democracy did no better in the districts in which they possess a decided majority. They have renominated nearly all the members by whom they were represented at Harrisburg last winter, and they have thus shown even less regard for the popular clamor for the purification of the Legislature than was evinced by the Republican Legislative Conventions. Duplicate nominations in a few of their districts afford a good sign that the consciences of all the delegates have not been stifled; but the unanimous renomination of Sam. Josephs shows how little the leaders in his district care for the welfare of the people.

But the grand scenes of action were the County and City Conventions, for in these bodies the entire Democracy of Philadelphia were represented, and a broad field was afforded for a display of their idiosyncrasies. The County Convention consumed the whole day in completing its organization. It required nice management, bold maneuvering, hard fighting, and desperate devilry for the whisky ring to curb and conquer this body; but its leaders were equal to the task, and they remained masters of the field. The defeated President, Philip Lowry, Jr., condenses his condemnation of the whole proceedings in a card published this morning, in which he states that, as he was elected three times and denied an opportunity to preside by a mob, he requests that his friends will give "no further acknowledgment to the convention until honest delegates be permitted to exercise their rights." A fitting counterpart of this statement is found in the fact that the Chairman chosen was Isaac Leech, one of the most adroit Democratic manipulators, and that his prominent backers were men equal to any emergency.

In the City Convention the party sprang plied more actively, and amid a succession of wild scenes of disorder, enlivened by terrific combats and an incursion of a detective officer in search of a thief, the good work of turning out candidates went on so bravely that Duncan was declared the nominee for Commissioner and Fry for Treasurer. Mr. Petros, the present Treasurer, requested his friends to withdraw, because the convention, as conducted, was the "merest farce;" but their efforts to obey this request were prevented by downright violence, and they were obliged, by main force, to remain helpless witnesses of the slaughter of their favorite candidate.

Out of evil good sometimes comes, and even the disgraceful scenes in the Democratic Conventions will serve a useful purpose if they help to teach good citizens the folly of suffering themselves to be bonned hand and foot, on election day, by the villainous action of the scoundrels and the scum of the city.

DR. RUSH'S BEQUEST.

YESTERDAY a meeting of the stockholders of the Philadelphia Library Company was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the acceptance or rejection of the bequest made by the late Dr. James Rush. When the fact was first made public that the Philadelphia Library had fallen heir to the magnificent sum of one million dollars, there was a general expression of satisfaction among all classes of citizens. Literary men especially, who know what the institution now is, who have enjoyed the many facilities that are afforded under the liberal system of management that throws its fine collection open to all comers, saw in the possession of Dr. Rush's wealth the means for largely increasing its usefulness and placing it on a level with the greatest of the great libraries of the world. The Philadelphia Library has for years, indeed from its very foundation, been hampered for want of funds; but it has been managed with prudence and skill, and in spite of its poverty it has obtained and fairly maintained a name and reputation of which the people of this city may well be proud. It was the general opinion that Dr. Rush could not have given his wealth to a worthier object, or to one that would make it a permanent blessing for all coming time, and the congratulations that were bestowed upon the library for its good fortune were as sincere as they were deserved.

On the publication of Dr. Rush's will, however, it was found that his bequest was encumbered with a vast number of curious and absurd conditions, directions, and expressions of opinion that rendered it difficult to understand what his real wishes were, and to make it extremely doubtful whether the money would not be more of an encumbrance than an aid to the library. The more the matter was considered, the more doubtful became the expediency of accepting the bequest; and when it was understood that the executor of Dr. Rush had, in compliance with his directions, determined to locate the new library building at Broad and Christian streets, and that he had purchased a lot of ground for the purpose, the hesitation to accept the bequest with its entangling conditions became clearly defined.

It was felt, however, that the matter was one of so much importance that hasty action would be imprudent, and after a thorough discussion yesterday, and a free expression of opinion among the stockholders present, it was finally concluded to defer final action on the subject until October next. The legal opinion that was obtained as to the intentions of the testator stated that the whole matter of selecting a lot and erecting a building was in the hands of the executor, and that in choosing the location at Broad and Christian streets he was carrying out the exact wishes of Dr. Rush. If the Philadelphia Library were removed to this place its usefulness would undoubtedly be materially impaired, and, coupled with the other extraordinary conditions of Dr. Rush's will, the expediency of accepting the bequest is more than doubtful.

A million dollars, however, is a great prize, and the Library Company is right to take time for a careful consideration of the matter, but it would certainly seem that the most judicious course for it to pursue is to decline the money, and carry on its work as it has been doing, trusting to the liberality of the citizens of Philadelphia to furnish it with funds, if any are needed, to carry on operations.

If the Philadelphia Library refuses to accept the bequest, the public will not lose the benefit of it, for, by the provisions of Dr. Rush's will, the money will be devoted to the establishment of an independent free library. Under all the circumstances, this appears to be the best thing that could be done. Dr. Rush was perfectly right to impose such conditions in his bequest as would insure its being applied in a proper manner to the object intended, and protected from waste and extravagance; but the greater portion of his will was a mass of absurdity, which could only have emanated from an eccentric recluse who had no practical ideas as to what he wanted to do himself, or what were the necessities of the institution he desired to benefit. It is a question whether the Philadelphia Library has a right, in view of the position it holds as a public institution, to encumber itself by accepting the money so ungraciously bestowed.

HAS THE MAYOR GONE FISHING?

A few years ago, when Mayor McMichael went fishing in preference to remaining at his post to do the official honors to the Chief Magistracy of the nation, as represented in the person of Andrew Johnson, a tremendous outcry was raised by the Democracy. The Mayor was assured that it was his duty to sink politics on such an occasion—to forget that Andy Johnson was a traitor to his principles and a blackguard in his manners, and to remember only that his office was entitled to honor. The Mayor was ridiculed, abused, and held up to contempt for his lack of courtesy; but Mr. Johnson's performance in this city, and the subsequent disgraceful exhibitions that he made of himself when "swinging round the circle," more than justified Mayor McMichael in declining to receive him on behalf of the loyal and decent citizens of Philadelphia.

We were assured, however, that when the Democracy got into power such things would not be, and Mayor Fox was elected under pledges to carry out reforms that were needed in our city government. We will give Mr. Fox the credit of having done a number of good things since he has been in office, and he has done nothing better than the issuing of an order, through Chief Muholland, a week or two ago, forbidding in the most positive terms, under penalty of dismissal, any member of the police force from meddling in politics in any shape whatever. Now, did the Mayor really intend to enforce this order, or was it merely intended to blind the eyes of our citizens, and to gain him a credit that he did not deserve? It certainly looks

as though the latter was the case, for just as the Democratic conventions were coming off, and the services of the policemen were needed by the political managers, the Mayor found it convenient to leave town for a day or two. Whether he has gone fishing or not is a question, but it is certain that he has managed to get out of the way, so that he could not interfere until the conventions had concluded their business. We accordingly find that no pretense whatever was made on the part of the policemen to obey the very proper order of the Chief of Police, and that gentleman made no effort to enforce it. In direct violation of the order, the policemen in all sections of the city officiated at the polls, ran for delegates, and participated in the conventions as the most active among the shoulder-hitters and demagogues who represented the Democracy of Philadelphia yesterday.

Mayor McMichael's offense, when the worst that can be said about it has been said, was but a breach of official courtesy; and it is certain that there were extenuating circumstances that would excuse the offense, if it were of even greater moment. Mayor Fox does not stand in the same position; he has made a pretense of instituting reforms for which he has obtained credit from all parties, and for him to leave the city just when his presence was most needed for the purpose of strictly enforcing his own regulations, was a breach of official duty for which there can be no excuse. Mr. Fox is a very worthy gentleman, and he has apparently labored to manage his office in a proper manner, but absence at this juncture proves conclusively that he is not his own master; and that, whether he wishes it or not, he is forced, openly or secretly, to aid the "ring" of Democratic politicians who are endeavoring to obtain the control of the public offices. It will be curious to note what action he will take in regard to the flagrant violation of his order by the policemen, when he returns from his fishing excursion.

Elizabethtown, Ky., boasts of a barn built of logs from the cabin where Abraham Lincoln was born. It must be a large barn.

An Indiana life insurance agent walked forty-eight miles to get a policy of \$2000, the application for which was afterwards refused by the company.

Tymouth, Mass., dedicates its soldiers' monument August 1. Governor Chamberlain, of Maine, will deliver the oration.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

FOR THE SUMMER—TO PREVENT sunburns and all discolorations and irritations of the skin, bites of mosquitoes or other insects, use Wright's Almond Glycerine Talcum. It is deliciously fragrant, transparent, and has no equal as a toilet soap, for use by druggists generally. R. & G. A. WRIGHT, No. 64 CHESTNUT STREET.

U. S. OFFICE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS. An appropriation (\$20,000) having been made by Congress for purchase of ARTIFICIAL LIMBS FOR OFFICERS of the United States Army and Navy mutilated in the service, applications may now be made, in person or by letter, by officers entitled to the benefit of the act, and who desire the best Artificial Limbs to be made by Dr. B. FRANK PALMER, Surgeon Artist, No. 109 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia, No. 68 BROADWAY, New York, 11 GREEN STREET, Boston. Offices for Supplying Army and Navy Officers.

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DR. F. R. THOMAS, THE LATEST OPERATOR of the Colton Dental Association, is now the only one in Philadelphia who devotes all his time and practice to extracting teeth, absolutely without pain, by fresh nitrous oxide gas. Office, 107 WALNUT ST. 15 123

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IMPORTANT TO BUYERS OF HOSIERY.—Messrs. COOK & BROTHER, Importers of Hosiery, No. 58 NORTH EIGHTH STREET, claim to be the only firm in Philadelphia, handling all grades of Hosiery at retail, who import their own goods. They feel assured.

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A call from the reader is solicited at their store, No. 58 NORTH EIGHTH STREET.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—OFFICE OF GENERAL FREIGHT AGENT, No. 32 MARKET STREET, Philadelphia, June 28, 1899.

NOTICE.—The rates for the transportation of coal to take effect July 1, 1899, can be obtained upon application at this office. S. B. KINGSTON, General Freight Agent.

POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.—The Sixtieth Annual Commencement for conferring Degrees will be held in HORTICULTURAL HALL on WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 30, at 8 o'clock. Address to be delivered by J. H. HAZLEBURST, Esq., Professor RICHARD S. SMITH, of the College Faculty, and Hon. W. H. HARRIS, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, at 10 o'clock. Music by the Germania Orchestra. The public are respectfully invited to attend. ALFRED L. KENNEDY, M. D., President of Faculty.

NINETY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. THE STATE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI OF PENNSYLVANIA. The annual meeting of this Society will be held at AUGUSTINE'S, No. 1105 WALNUT STREET, on MONDAY, July 5, 1899, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Members of other State Societies who may be in the city on that day are invited to dine with this Society at the above-named place at 10 o'clock P. M. H. HARRIS, Secretary, Philadelphia, June 28, 1899. 6 20 1007

DEDICATION OF THE WASHINGTON STATUE. JULY 5, 1899. The Statue of George Washington, to be presented to the city by the Washington Monument Association of the First School District of Pennsylvania, will be placed in position and presented to the city, with appropriate ceremonies, on MONDAY NEXT, July 5, at 9 A. M.

The Controllers, Directors, Teachers, and Pupils of the Public Schools, the Mayor, heads of departments, members of Select and Common Councils, military, the cadets attached to the State School, as well as all other organizations bearing the name of Washington, are invited to participate in the ceremonies. Organizations desirous to take part are invited to meet the Committee, in Select Council Chamber, on THURSDAY JULY 1, at 9 P. M. WILLIAM B. HANNA, Chairman of Committee.

OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 227 S. FOURTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, June 28, 1899.

NOTICE.—In accordance with the terms of the lease and contract between the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, dated May 18, 1899, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company will pay at their office, No. 227 S. FOURTH STREET, Philadelphia, on and after the 30th day of July, 1899, a DIVIDEND of \$1.50 per share, clear of all taxes, to the stockholders of the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company, as they stand registered on the books of the said East Pennsylvania Railroad Company on the 1st day of July, 1899. S. BRADFORD, Treasurer Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co.

NOTE.—The transfer books of the EAST PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY will be closed on July 1 and reopened on July 11, 1899. HENRY C. JONES, 4 25 1007 Treasurer East Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the Legislature of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE FRANKLIN BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital stock of five hundred thousand dollars, with a right to increase the same to one million dollars. 6 20 1010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the Legislature of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE BANK OF AMERICA, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, with a right to increase the same to two hundred thousand dollars. 6 20 1010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the Legislature of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with a right to increase the same to a million of dollars. 6 20 1010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT an application will be made at the next meeting of the Legislature of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE BANK OF AMERICA, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, with a right to increase the same to one million of dollars. 6 20 1010

OFFICE OF THE UNION PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY, TWENTY-THIRD and BROWN STREETS. PHILADELPHIA, June 28, 1899.

The Coupons for interest on the Bonds of this Company, due July 1, 1899, will be paid (free of tax) on presentation at the office of JACOB R. RIDGWAY, No. 31 THIRD STREET, on and after Thursday, July 1, 1899. W. M. H. KEMBLE, Treasurer.

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INSTRUCTION. THE LEHIGH UNIVERSITY, SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA.

Applicants for admission on SEPTEMBER 1, 1899, will be examined on MONDAY, June 2, or on FRIDAY, August 27. Apply to HENRY COPPEE, LL. D., President.

THE EDGEHILL SCHOOL, a Boarding and Day School for Boys, will begin its next session in the new Academy Building at MERCHANTVILLE, NEW JERSEY, MONDAY, September 4, 1899. For circulars apply to Rev. T. W. CATTELL, Principal.

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